

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7788

BILL NUMBER: SB 513

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 16, 2003

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Plea Agreements.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Waterman

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows a defendant who is incarcerated to receive additional credit time under a plea agreement for completion of educational, vocational, or substance abuse programs approved by the Department of Correction.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Allowing for added credit time could reduce the need for added prison beds in future years. Sex offenders would not qualify for this type of plea agreement. No limits are set in this bill for the amount of time that can be reduced from a sentence.

The average expenditure to house an adult offender was \$25,087 in FY 2001. Individual facility expenditures ranged from \$18,520 to \$54,465. (This does not include the cost of new construction.) If offenders can be housed in existing facilities, the average cost for medical care, food, and clothing is approximately \$1,825 annually, or \$5 daily, per prisoner.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Allowing for this plea agreement arrangement could reduce the time spent by court officers on a case if the prosecuting attorney and the defendant can agree on the added time that can be reduced from the sentence.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Correction.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, prosecuting attorneys.

Information Sources:

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